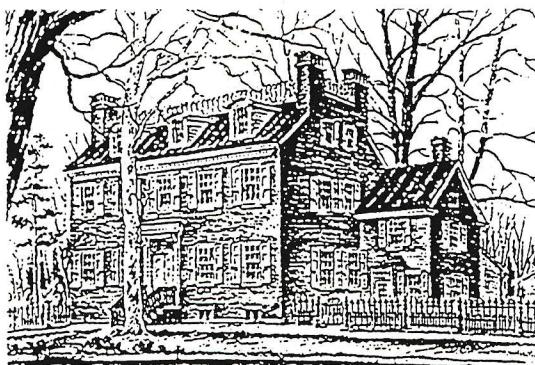


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# THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HADDONFIELD

## *Greenfield Hall*

Volume 41, No. 1

343 King's Highway East - Haddonfield, New Jersey 08033

February 1997

### GHOSTS AT THE CANDLELIGHT DINNER HISTORY...MORE THAN IT APPEARS

David Munn, speaker at the Society's annual Candlelight Dinner on March 26, is an historian of note, a library administrator, archivist, author and raconteur. He has chosen for his talk: **History..More Than It Appears: A Revolutionary War Story.** In describing the subject, he wrote, "This is a true story of the Revolutionary War and the ghost who experienced it." It's a topic which will hold our interest after the lovely dinner we'll enjoy at Tavistock.

While ghosts are not a major subject of David Munn's research, they do appear occasionally. Society members may recall his entertaining talk at a previous annual meeting on the topic **Ghosts of Rancocas Woods.** The more serious nature of his research was presented at a Candlelight Dinner in 1988 when he related the history of the Croft Farm in Cherry Hill.

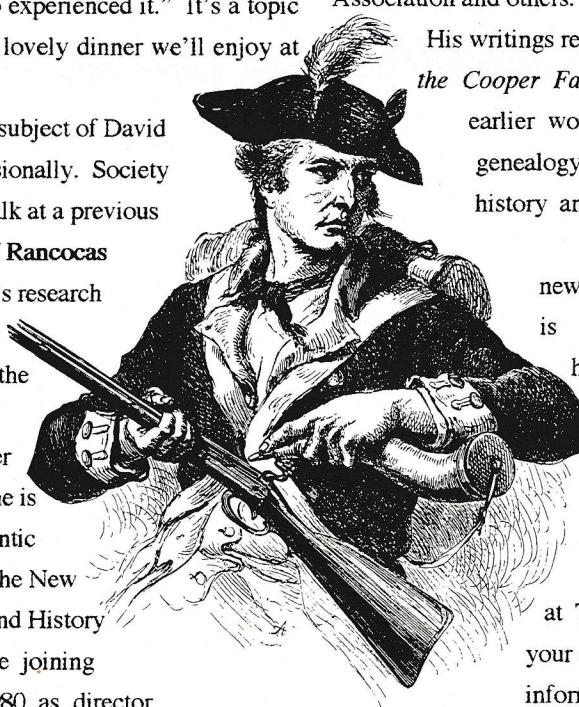
Mr. Munn's professional career is entirely library oriented. Presently he is Community Librarian with the Atlantic County Library. He had been with the New Jersey State Library as the Archives and History Archivist and Historical Editor before joining the Cherry Hill Free Library in 1980 as director.

Mr. Munn is well known in both library and historical organizations for his active participation as officer, trustee or committee chair. He is currently affiliated with library and historical groups on state levels as well as on the local scene with the Camden County Historical Society, the Walt Whitman Association and others.

His writings reflect the range of his activities. *Legacy of the Cooper Family* is his most recent publication. His earlier works include other research in the field of genealogy, historical pamphlets and maps, local history and *Auto Tours of Camden County*.

While library science, with all its newest advances in technological innovation is Mr. Munn's profession, New Jersey history, with its intricate interplay of people (even ghosts) and politics, events and places, remains his serious avocation.

Don't miss this exciting presentation at our Candlelight Dinner at Tavistock Country Club. Be sure to mark your calendar; invitations, along with further information, will be mailed in a few weeks.



Join us for a congenial, informative evening of fun and fellowship on Wednesday evening, March 26, 1997, at Tavistock Country Club. The annual Candlelight Dinner is an opportunity for our members to renew old friendships and to meet those who have more recently joined our Society.

Informal greetings will begin at 6:30 P.M. with a cash bar and hors d'oeuvres; dinner will follow at 7:30. Reservations are \$28.00 per person. A form for your convenience will be included with your invitation.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Pat Lennon

Since its founding in 1914, the Historical Society of Haddonfield has relied on member-volunteers to get things done. Their accomplishments include everything from starting, recording, and maintaining the various collections; spearheading a fund-raising drive for the public library; moving into a building of their own at 237 King's Highway East; and eventually purchasing and establishing permanent headquarters at Greenfield Hall.

Later, with a grant arranged by a Society member, the Samuel Mickle House was moved to its present location. A successful town-wide fund campaign, together with substantial contributions from the Women's Committee, resulted in the restoration of the Mickle House, which today serves as library and research center.

Sometime in the 1960's the Women's Committee was revitalized as the Ways and Means arm of the Society. Its first venture, the Flea Market (named for its Parisian counterpart), was a fun and financial success. Rechristened the Village Fair to present a quality image, it has become one of the most popular of Haddonfield's spring events.

Today, management by volunteers is no longer practicable. There are two reasons: (1) The Society has grown to such an extent that it really needs someone with professional expertise in directing, guiding and scheduling the Society's conservation and preservation activities; (2) With less time to give, volunteers are more particular about where and how they will spend that time.

For the Historical Society, the conclusions are becoming more obvious:

- \* The time has come to consider hiring a qualified individual to manage and direct its multiple needs. Following the recommendations outlined in **VISION 2000**, the Board, working with the Treasurer and Finance Committee, should undertake a study to determine the feasibility of engaging a director and on what basis.
  
- \* Today's volunteers prefer to do work they feel is important; and just as significant, the work should be related to their interest and bring personal satisfaction.

The need for an Historical Society in Haddonfield is just as compelling today as it was eighty-two years ago. Only the way the Society meets those needs has changed. How the Society fulfills its mission now and in the next century is our real challenge.

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## HELLO FROM TOKYO

It was last May that our then-treasurer, Mike McMullen, his wife, and two young children moved to Japan for a period of two years. Mike assumed the position of CFO for Hewlett-Packard's operations in that part of the world. Through the magic of e-mail, it is quite easy to keep in touch.

Mike wishes everyone Akemashite Omedeto (Happy New Year). He reports that, during the Christmas holidays, he and his family were able to return to Delaware where they enjoyed a happy reunion with their families.

Our best wishes are with him, along with the hope that he will return to Haddonfield and the Society when those two years are over.

## OUR MAN OF THE HOUR

by Patricia Lennon

Shade Tree Commissioner Robert J. (Rusty) Freedley was indeed the "man of the hour" at the Society's November meeting. When a medical emergency made it impossible for Gail Greenberg, Executive Director of the Camden County Cultural and Heritage Commission, to discuss her book, *A Comprehensive Guide for Listing a Building in the National Register of Historic Places*, Rusty graciously agreed to talk, with only a day's notice, about one of Haddonfield's treasures - its trees! And, let us assure you, there is no more enthusiastic Tree Ambassador than Rusty Freedley!

In his talk Rusty noted that the feature which sets Haddonfield apart from other communities, near and far, is its trees. Over 11,000 of them are planted on both sides of all 50 miles of Borough streets.

More than anything else, trees are Haddonfield's heritage. Some of them, here when the earliest settlers arrived, are still living today. The importance of trees in the Borough was recognized as early as 1904 when the first ordinance protecting trees planted along the streets of the town was adopted. Eight years later, another ordinance was passed giving the Shade Tree Commission complete jurisdiction over any tree, or portion of tree, growing in any public highway or park.

The Shade Tree Commission continued to go quietly about its business for years, but in February 1930, in conformance with state law, the Shade Tree Commission became a legal entity. Its duties and responsibilities were more clearly defined in June 1930 and updated again in 1988.

In his study of trees, Rusty discovered that of the 37 native species identified in William Penn's day, 34 varieties are still flourishing in Haddonfield's woods and parks and on its streets. Though they grow randomly in the woods, the trees gracing Haddonfield's streets are carefully selected for the location in which they will be planted. In addition to considering the characteristics of the tree itself, Shade Tree Commissioners must also make allowances for overhead wires, gas and sewer lines and the impact of vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

Listeners sensed, in hearing Rusty Freedley speak, his pride in Haddonfield's tree-lined streets. And indeed, we should all be proud of them! Haddonfield's trees bring delight to the eye and joy to the spirit throughout the year.

## GIFTS RECENTLY GIVEN TO THE SOCIETY

The following gifts to the Society are acknowledged with great appreciation:

*Antique and household tools; five trash cans*

Bill Mason

*Barn artifacts; camera obscura*

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Johnson and Andrew W. Johnson

*Two hats; pair of stiletto heel alligator shoes*

Mrs. M. J. MacKenzie

*World War II infantry uniform, including cap and helmet, small collection of military insignia, patches, and combat ribbons.*

*China, glass and pottery shards from excavation,*

*Roberts House, 342 King's Highway, East*

Mrs. William (Ginny) DeLong

*Wedding vest worn by Isaac Nicholson, two formal men's vests, silk shawls, collection of laces*

John A Nicholson

*World War II "B-3" rations with accessory packet, can of foot powder*

Robert M. Tatem

*American flag flown at Birdwood during Governor Driscoll's term of office*

Patricia Driscoll

*Tea service, c. 1876, featuring likenesses of George and Martha Washington*

Mrs. Stanley Brown

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## THE LATEST APPOINTMENTS

At the January Executive Board meeting, Deborah Troemner was appointed to act as the Society's delegate to the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey for the coming year. Debby is one of our Past Presidents and has served the Society in many capacities since she held the position of Administrator for our organization in the '80's. She is a guide for the Philadelphia Museum of Art as well as for the Foundation of Architecture. Debby is the coauthor of the Foundation's *Walking Tour of Haddonfield*.

A Booklet Committee, formed to produce a brochure about Greenfield Hall and the Society, will include Pat Lennon, Mary Jane Freedley, Debbe Mervine, and Connie Reeves.

## FROM THE SAMUEL MICKLE HOUSE by Kathy Tassini

The library has continued to be busy and active all fall. After closing from December 23 to January 2 for a holiday break, we have resumed normal hours which means that we are open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 and the first Sunday of each month from 1 to 3 in the afternoon.

Among the most sought-after information in our collection is information and photos regarding houses all over town, not just "historic" houses in the Historic District. Whenever someone comes in to research a house or when we do research on a property, we create a "House File" for that address so that if someone should come looking for the same information in five or ten years, it will be readily available. Our "House Files" are growing at a slow but steady rate.

Perhaps there are members who have photos or information on houses that their family has owned for a long time or which their family once owned and which they would be willing to share with the library. You do not have to donate your original documents. We can copy both written records and photographs and allow you to keep the originals. There is a possibility that a scanner will be donated to the library this year as well. If that becomes a reality, we would be able to input documents and photos directly into the computer which would make our house files information even more readily accessible. If you think you may have something of use to this project, please call me at the library (429-7375) or at home (429-2462) and I will be happy to talk with you about it.

The Library Volunteers continue to do great service to the Society by their generous donation of their time and knowledge. One of most faithful volunteers, Zeze Zaleski, was struck with a serious meningitis before the holidays. She is happily out of the hospital and rehabilitation center and back in her own home. We hope that she will be able to join us again in the library as she continues to improve. Zeze has been working on our Ledger Collection for over two years and has done an incredible job of inventorying and indexing materials. If anyone else is inclined to join us, we have both long- and short-term projects available.

I thought I would close this month with a list of some of the recent donations to the library collection. Perhaps it will suggest some things that you have lying around which you might share with us.

*Copies of photographs of Tavistock Country Club, survey of the Borough of Tavistock, map of Haddonfield (1865), from George Koch and Tavistock Country Club*

*Wedgewood Swim Club pamphlet, 1955, from Nancy Hubbard*

*Evans Genealogies, from Marion Willits*

*History of 114 King's Highway West, contract for building, postal cards of Haddonfield, from Alexander Tomlinson*

*New Jersey's Underground Railroad, talk prepared for Tatem School class, from Betty and Stuart Lyons*

*Haddonfield High School, Class of 1922, photo, Class Day program, Commencement program, The Shield, and a photo of Schlect's Bakery, from Norma Everett*

*The John Middleton Farm, by Mary Jane Freedley, from Mary Jane Freedley*

*Nicholson Family papers, photographs and books, from the estate of Bettina Nicholson*

*Sanborn insurance map of Haddonfield, 1895, blueprints for an outbuilding in Haddonfield, from Sara Schneider*

*Needlework Guild of America, Haddonfield Branch, organization records from 1890's through 1995, from the Haddonfield Branch, Needlework Guild of America*

*The Old Hinchman Homestead, by Elizabeth Lyons, from Betty Lyons*

*Photo of Lloyd Hogan driving Thor's Drugstore Car, from Tom Applegate*

*Haddonfield Baptist Cemetery Records (G-Z)*

## THE READY VILLA ASSOCIATION

by Betty and Stuart Lyons

In 1849 a group of investors got together and established the Ready Villa Association. Their grandiose plans included country seats built on the beautiful, elevated lands of Haddonfield, on a scale that was deemed to be better than any other place in America, surpassing even most of the lovely European villas.

A booklet written in 1854 recorded the plan of the Haddonfield Ready Villa Association. Arrangements had been made for development at Haddonfield, advertised as within six miles of Philadelphia, accessible by two railroads, and two turnpikes. It was proclaimed one of the most beautiful and healthy rural retreats in America. The prospectus, printed by King and Baird at Number 9 Sansom Street in Philadelphia, consisted of forty-seven pages and a large map. Options were obtained on lands between Cooper's Creek and Grove Street, including Hopkins Pond farm and home, the Coffin property, later to become Bancroft School, and where Shepherds Home was built in what is now Cherry Hill.

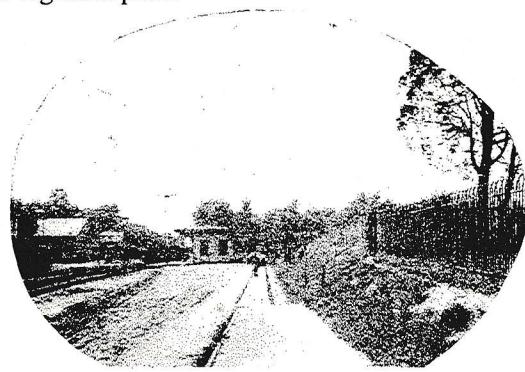
The Association planned to create a huge park with lakes, fountains, streams; with hundreds of cottages of many different sizes and styles among the flowers of the meadow and beneath the shade of the forest trees; in rural solitude, yet in close proximity to the steam engine which would take them to Philadelphia, said to be one of the most beautiful cities in the world, or take them to the foaming breakers of the Atlantic Ocean. The Camden and Atlantic Railroad was already in operation and had a station at Haddonfield; the Camden and Keyport Railroad was to have been built shortly with another Haddonfield station.

Four hundred acres of selected land was laid out in park style with broad avenues connecting with streets already in use in Haddonfield. One hundred and twenty acres following Cooper's Creek and the beautiful ten acre deep water of the Hopkins mill pond surrounded by elegant groves and woods formed the natural park which would be improved by adding walks and roads. This was to be added to the villa (now Bancroft School) which had already been laid out as a park.

The planned lots were to be of three sizes, having fronts of sixty feet, ninety feet or one hundred twenty feet. Each lot would be at least one hundred twenty feet deep and would be on high ground to take advantage of the healthful, airy and agreeable dwelling places for the summer season, and, if one chose, for the rest of the year. European gardeners were to be hired to plant hedges with beautiful lawns and graveled walks weaving around shade and fruit trees with association members choosing various plans for their flower and vegetable plots.



Hopkins Pond



East side of railroad station

A special water works was to be erected to take advantage of the numerous springs feeding the beautiful natural pond. The existing mill would be kept in operation and steam power would be used to raise water into the reservoir. Planned funds, invested in stock of the gas company for each and every member, would pay dividends so that gas bills would be minimal.

It was arranged that the beautiful and costly villa of William Coffin, Esquire, now Bancroft School, be transferred to the association for a magnificent Girls' School and Young Ladies' Seminary. Since the boys were

chivalrous enough to allow their sisters first choice of schools, as soon as four hundred villas were sold, the

Boys' School and Academy would be started in the cottage and garden of John Hopkins, Esquire, adjoining the park. They hastened to add that there were good public and private schools already in place in Haddonfield.

In the prospectus the developers mentioned the churches and physicians and detailed the types of transportation. Besides the two railroads they had mentioned, numbers of omnibuses and stages running daily over the turnpikes were listed. A company was chartered to straighten out Cooper's Creek to make it navigable for larger crafts, even for small steamboats; it was emphasized that the creek was navigable for sloops up to the various properties and was currently being used to carry heavy freight.

The crowning feature of the building of the villas was the "Park Colony". Planned by lot size, the cottages were detailed as to their plans. The smallest lot size cost \$1,310, \$10 to be paid on notice with \$5 weekly for five years. The intermediate size was \$1,965 with \$15 payable upon notice and a weekly fee of \$7.50 for five years. The largest villa would be \$2,620 with \$20 to be paid upon notice and \$10 every week for five years. These all included shares of stock in the water works, gas works and schools based upon the lot size.

The noted architect, Samuel Sloan, was called upon to survey the area. He was highly complimentary of the ideas pertaining to the grounds, scenery, mill pond, cottage plans, water works and gas works and schools. He saw it as a happy union of rural life and city comforts at the lowest possible cost.



Gothic style, view of two cottages of smallest size



Italian style, largest class of cottages

Unfortunately, these wonderful, elaborate plans crumbled and never came to fruition when the company dissolved with no building having been done, following the death of President Garrick Mallery, Esquire, the association's guiding spirit.

### EDUCATION PROGRAM MOVES INTO SPRING PLANNING by Joe Haro

Kathy Tassini is busy planning for education programs for third, fourth, and fifth graders in the Haddonfield Public Schools, the Friends School and Christ the King School for the spring season. A first step in the process is docent training.

Anyone interested in becoming a docent for the program should contact Kathy at either of these numbers: 429-7375 or 429-2462. The program involves minimal training and offers much reward, including such things as community tours, a study of Elizabeth Haddon and Historic Haddonfield, and architecture tours of Haddonfield.

Joe Haro, Kathy Tassini, and Don Wallace are also exploring the development of a second grade program that would stress tools. Don Wallace is curator of the tool collection at the Society and has a wealth of information on the subject.

In March Don will offer an exhibition concentrating on the tool collection which will be on display at the Haddonfield Public Library. It is hoped that this can be tied in with the second grade program.

Society members are reminded that if they know of anyone who is looking for a special tour of Greenfield Hall or a walking tour of Haddonfield, they should feel free to contact Joe Haro or Kathy Tassini.

## BUILDING AND GROUNDS REPORT

by Tom Applegate

The heating unit in the basement of the Samuel Mickle House (the Hip Roof House) has been unreliable for the past couple of years. Now, with a valuable library housed there, it was decided to replace the old unit. Hutchinson was awarded the contract at the November Board meeting and the work is already completed. A humidifier was also added to the system to provide the proper climate for our books.

This coming spring the Mickle House will be painted and the front porch repaired by Tom Cotter. At the same time the garage doors and the exterior trim of the garage will be scraped and painted.

The yards around Greenfield Hall have been looking much better this past summer and fall under the supervision of Nancy Burrough and the work of Ken Martin, Landscaper. The Ferris King Memorial Garden will become a reality this spring and the three outside lampposts and lights will be replaced. The old cedar posts have done their job for many years.

Don Wallace is busy almost every Monday morning working on the basement and tool collection in Greenfield Hall. We always need volunteers. If you have an interest, call Tom Applegate at 428-7280. Please help. We still have a lot to do.

## GARDEN FORECAST FOR 1997

by Nancy Burrough

The Pocket Park Gardeners were a huge success in 1996. Hopefully, we will add some new names to our list in 1997. The efforts of our volunteers are beginning to show and we are looking forward to its becoming an ongoing project.

Our major work for the year will involve completing the Ferris King Memorial Garden. The area being considered is around the smokehouse. We have a plan and have been getting estimates on materials and labor. Also, we will be needing a new lamppost and stone with name plaque.

Since this is becoming more expensive to execute than originally planned, donations are still most welcome. If you would like to help in any way or have questions pertaining to our projects, please feel free to call me, Nancy Burrough, at 429-8361.

## THE CONTINUING VILLAGE FAIR

The year was 1961. A newly formed Women's Committee, under the chairmanship of Mrs. William Tomlinson, discussed promoting activities which would generate income and help make the Society more valuable to its members. One of their contributions was the organization of a Flea Market which was first held in 1962.

It was from these Flea Markets that the concept of an Historic Village Fair evolved. Morning and afternoon auctions were introduced, a gourmet luncheon was served, a Clothes Line Art Show was presented, and craftsmen demonstrated old-time crafts, such as tinsmithing, wood turning, rug braiding, tole painting, and scrimshaw.

Today our Fair has changed little; it includes a large Garage Sale, an assortment of baked goods, books, jewelry, commemoratives, a simpler lunch. And we still rely upon our members and their friends to supply most of the items to be sold.

So please remember the Historical Society's Village Fair when you are cleaning, selling, moving or generally reorganizing. We will accept all donations and consignments at any time. To arrange for items to be picked up, call the Society at 429-7375 or Nancy Burrough at 429-8361.

Donations are tax deductible and consignments begin at 15% of the selling price. If the consigned article is not sold, it will be returned to the owner without charge.

We always have lots of buyers ready to advance on the Fair even before we've opened. Let's have lots of goodies waiting for them.

## DONATION IN NAME OF TOM APPLEGATE

One good deed deserves another, so they say.

This fall Tom Applegate, our Building and Grounds Chairman, contributed his time and talents in constructing a bulletin board for the Haddonfield Civic Association. In the near future, the board will be installed in the Haddonfield Post Office.

In appreciation, the Civic Association made a donation of \$300 to our Society. The Society's Executive Board has voted to use the contribution to repair the ceiling in the basement. Our thanks to Tom and the Civic Association.

## OTHER OUTLETS

Don't miss the Historical Society's page on Haddonfield Online which can be accessed on the Internet through "www.haddonfield.com".

Click on Historical Society to see what's happening at Greenfield Hall. Your responses will be welcome at [creeves7@aol.com](mailto:creeves7@aol.com).

Society news can also be viewed on the Haddonfield Cable Channel, Cable TV, Channel 18.

## TREES AND THE GARDEN CLUB

Are you aware that Haddonfield is the Tree City of the USA? Have you ever seen any other community where tall trees beautify each and every street?

The white ash located near the boxwood garden to the rear of Greenfield Hall is one of our town's beautiful trees, a focal point on our grounds. Approximately 100 feet tall, the tree has a crown which spreads 90 feet. Unfortunately, English ivy vines are growing on the trunk and progressing up its major leaders. An area of decay in the center leader and four other weakly connected leaders require cabling to provide needed stability. Deadwood is evident throughout the crown which is dense with foliage. The tree's ability to receive moisture is hampered by the slate patio and turf over most of the root system.

Obviously, this tree is in need of some help. An inspection by Bartlett Tree Experts of Cherry Hill led to recommendations which would include soil testing, fertilization, pruning, crown cleaning and thinning, ivy removal, and cabling.

And this is where the Haddonfield Garden Club, celebrating its 90th anniversary, comes in. The Garden Club has offered, as one of its special projects for the year, to "adopt" the tree and join us in providing the necessary services to ensure its health. At the January Executive Board meeting of the Society, officers and members thanked the members of the Garden Club and voted to accept their generous offer to invest in the tree's future.

More information will be included in the next *Bulletin*. Your contributions towards this worthwhile project will be greatly appreciated.



## THE BOXWOOD GARDEN

The beautiful boxwood garden in the rear of Greenfield Hall was started soon after the Revolutionary War. In the 1920's the bushes were about 15 feet tall, the second largest in the country, second only to Mt. Vernon.

They are no longer in such pristine condition and at this time are in need of pest management to overcome the proliferation of mites and their eggs. Mulching would also be beneficial. The Tree Experts recommended a course of action to improve the health of the bushes.

The March 1992 issue of the *Bulletin* includes a photograph of the boxwood garden during the 1920's when the Van Harts lived at Greenfield Hall.

## NOMINATIONS

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Nancy Burrough, is hard at work preparing a slate for this year's elections which will take place at our Candlelight Dinner. We will be electing four Trustees, a Vice-President, the Secretary and the Treasurer. All positions have reasonable expectations.

Filling a Society office is a perfect way to serve our organization and at the same time, it is a personal growth opportunity for yourself. If you have any questions about any of these positions or if you want to volunteer to be included in the slate, please call Nancy at 429-8361.

## AN EVENING TO REMEMBER

It's not too late. Tickets are still available which will give you the chance to host the festivities at the *Dinner in the Grand Style of Greenfield Hall* on the date of your choice in April. The winner will be chosen at the Candlelight Dinner at Tavistock Country Club on March 26.

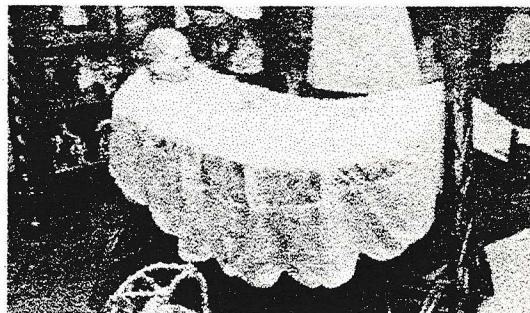
Just think...the opportunity to invite nine friends to join you in an unforgettable experience...a candlelight setting enhanced with silver, lace, crystal, lovely flowers...a special multi-course dinner menu you have helped choose... a well-trained staff to serve you...a handsome butler to greet you. Truly a special occasion.

But, in order to win, you'll have to send in those purple ticket stubs filled out with your name and telephone number along with your check made out to the Historical Society. Don't forget...you have the same chance to win as anyone else does who has purchased a ticket.

## MISSING! CAN YOU HELP?

The wicker cradle shown in this picture has been missing since it was part of a holiday display at Greenfield Hall at the end of 1993.

If you have any knowledge as to its whereabouts, please contact the Society at 429-7375. The cradle is an important piece of Haddonfield history and we are anxious to have it returned to our collection.



## THE FINANCIAL PICTURE

What a difference a few years can make, especially if combined with good planning and lots of hard work.

Back in 1992, we felt the effects of a dramatic drop in interest rates which had an extremely negative impact on the revenue available from our invested funds for the operation of our organization. It required the Society to eliminate the position of Office Coordinator in order to meet a major increase in expenses arising from the roofing and painting necessary to maintain Greenfield Hall.

Fortunately, our Executive Board at that time reacted to the situation with positive action. Operation policies were reviewed to ascertain that the Society would be able to continue properly and efficiently. Current and future financial priorities were determined and strategies were devised to attain these goals. Our members were apprised of the situation and many rose to the challenge and made donations for various projects.

In the ensuing years, operating expenses have been cut to a minimum. At the same time our income from Society activities and rentals has increased and we have been the recipients of several trusts which provide us with another source of income. As a result, the repairs and maintenance of Greenfield Hall and the Samuel Mickle House have either been completed or contracted for and the Society is continuing to move forward toward its goals.

Helene Zimmer-Loew, Treasurer, reports that we are very sound financially. Our total endowment, which includes two trust funds, now equals just over \$175,000, well on the way toward our minimum goal of \$250,000. We have been the recipients of some stock certificates which pay dividends, we have been able to invest in some money market funds and CD's, and the monies generated through our activities and rentals have been sufficient to take care of our operating expenses at the present.

Our goal, as mentioned above, is to increase our endowment base so that eventually we will be able to expand our services to the community. We are still striving to keep Greenfield Hall open on a regular basis in order to provide tours for visitors and organizations. We are hopeful of doing more in the field of education, developing additional lessons and tours in cooperation with the Haddonfield schools. Increasing the access to historical information through library services, publications, collections, and exhibits is among our other goals.

At the least, these activities will necessitate a part time coordinator. More satisfactory would be the employment of an administrative/support staff along with a librarian. Naturally, day to day expenses would be a continuing necessity.

Although we have a long way to go, the optimism and enthusiasm generated by both our Board and our volunteers augurs well for the future of the Society. So, won't you join us? Volunteer your time, find a new member, make a monetary contribution, become involved in the operations. We know if you try it, you'll like it!

## RUMORS? GOSSIP?

We have heard, and perhaps you have too, rumors that the Society is almost bankrupt and that the sale of Greenfield Hall is imminent. We don't know where this gossip began, but the rumors are **untrue**. We hope that if you hear anyone mentioning the "precarious financial condition of the Historical Society", you will certainly set the record straight.

## CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

If you've been thinking of making a donation to the Historical Society of Haddonfield, it can make sense to give appreciated property. In this way the amount of your deduction is the value of the property rather than its cost. You receive a charitable deduction without recognizing any capital gain on the property's appreciation because of the disposition of the securities or tangible property.

A tax deduction for the fair market value of appreciated stock contributions is available for donations being made until May 31, 1997. Donations after that period will receive a deduction of only the tax basis of such appreciated property.

A pledge to make a contribution does not create a deduction. A contribution is deductible only in the year that a check is mailed or payment is made by credit card.

Canceled checks are no longer considered sufficient documentation for charitable contributions of \$250 or more. It is the responsibility of the donor to obtain verification from a competent appraiser.

If you are interested in making such a gift, we will be pleased to assist you in finding a qualified appraiser. The Executive Board is most appreciative of the generous support members have shown, and continue to show, in the operation of the Society and its many programs.

## FALL ACTIVITIES by Deborah Mervine

### BACK TO OUR HAUNTED HOUSE

The Society is indebted to Yvonne Carpenter and her extensive collection of macabre items for another successful Halloween Haunted House. It was truly scary and fun to boot.

Jim Hansen, with his helpers, Debbie Moore and her son, Scott, provided a wonderful finale in our rear yard among corn sheaves and hay bales where pumpkins could be painted and hot dogs, pie and cider could be enjoyed in the festive atmosphere produced by a fog machine.

Those waiting in line to enter were able to explore our tongue-in-cheek grave yard executed by Jim Hansen.

Thanks also go to the Youth Activities Committee from Haddonfield Memorial High School. The YAC, in appropriate costumes, distributed about 500 flyers to parade-goers, held signs, helped with pumpkin painting, and of course did all the requisite yelling and screaming.

The following Society members also need to be thanked:

Gene and Myra Kain - pylons for coffin

Pat Lennon - Witch with Halloween history

Connie Reeves - Elizabeth Haddon

JoAnn Bowman - Elvira collecting money

Tom Mervine - corpse in casket

Dianne Snodgrass and Debbie Moore - costumes

Debbe Mervine - Witch giving tours

All this effort produced a profit of \$1018. 00.

Thanks everyone!!

who had to inform the firehouse to blow the siren. Silence! Where's a definitive answer when I need one?! And then it started to pour. Don didn't have the answer but the Lord did! I called the firehouse, the siren blew and all was saved for the next night.

As of this writing, we have a profit of \$1782.20.

Thanks to Connie Reeves, Ed Reeves, Pat Lennon, Mary Pharo, Nancy Burrough, Tom Mervine, Barbara Crane and Debbie Mervine for another successful project.

### THE HOLLY FESTIVAL

This year's Holly Festival was one of the most successful, due to the cooperation of many Society members. So many helped that I can't name them all, especially the callers and bakers, but a few deserve our heartfelt thanks: Mary Jane Freedley, Barbara Lane, Debby Troemner, and Nancy Burrough for the beautiful baskets of greens; Debbie Mervine, Connie Reeves, Pat Lennon, Barbara Crane and Mary Pharo for organizing the Luminaria.

The profit breakdown is as follows:

Crafter table rentals @ \$25.	\$175.00
Commemoratives	121.00
Baked goods	225.00
Baskets of greens	491.00
Loose greens	142.00
Donations	35.00
Walk-in Luminaria sales	<u>459.00</u>
Total	\$1648.00

\* \* \* \* \*

### LIGHTING THE LUMINARIA

Well, we did it again! Haddonfield was beautiful. Christmas night was a little anti-climactic but nevertheless it was lovely.

Now, step into my life for about twenty minutes on Christmas Eve. At 4:45 P.M. it was misting outside. After giving the situation much thought and consulting with my great advisors, Tom and Connie and Ed Reeves, I decided to go ahead with the luminaria lighting. At 4:50 the mist was heavier but I was still planning to go ahead even though I was very worried. At 4:55 there were raindrops in the mist! Panic Time! I called my neighbors, Mary Stuart Fisher and Don and Sally O'Brien who always give me good counsel. When I asked what to do, Don said he was waiting to hear if the fire siren blew at 5:00 P.M. to signal a postponement. I laughed, "Hahaha" and told him I was the one

As you can see, our fall activities have been very profitable for the Society. Activities such as these happen only because of the dedication of a group of our members. Do you have any ideas which could be incorporated into our schedule? Will you volunteer to help with a project?

We will be most happy to hear from you, to listen to your thoughts (any and all), to attempt to implement your suggestions. Please write a note to Pat Lennon, President, at Greenfield Hall, or call me, Connie Reeves, Editor, at 429-0326.

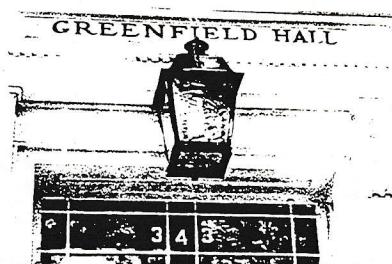
Plan to join the activities at Tavistock Country Club on Wednesday, March 26. Good food, interesting guests, and a wonderful program.

See you there!

## A BIT OF HISTORY

The opening of Greenfield Hall as the new headquarters of the Historical Society of Haddonfield officially took place at a candlelight tour following a dinner meeting on February 28, 1961. Dinner was served at the Haddon Fortnightly. Dr. John Munroe of the University of Delaware, an historical writer and lecturer, spoke on the American colonies and their antiques.

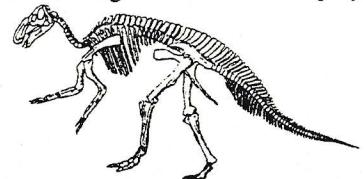
Following the talk, the members walked down King's Highway to the Society's new home. There was much excitement. Anticipation had built up for months with the promise of seeing the beautifully redecorated Greenfield Hall; the participants were not disappointed.



It is interesting to note that dinner reservations were limited to 180 people. The cost of attending this happy event, 36 years ago, was \$3.50.

## MORE ON DINOSAURS

The world's first nearly complete dinosaur was discovered in 1858 in a ravine here in Haddonfield - the Hadrosaurus foulkii. Before this discovery, dinosaurs were thought to have been four-footed elephantine reptiles. In England museum displays had structured them that way.



From that fortunate summer find in 1858 to the early 1870's, New Jersey was the center of the world's study of paleontology. After that time, research moved to western United States.

In recent years, however, paleontologists have returned to our state with grants from the Dinosaur Society, a non-profit organization for dinosaur research. At sites in Camden, Burlington, Gloucester and Monmouth Counties scientists have found bones belonging to dinosaurs living probably 65 millions years ago. With the help of scientists using new technology at Rutgers University, they will be able to determine more accurately the age of the findings.

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

During this past year we have found that our membership has dwindled. Our total count is only 347, down from the 400's, and 46 of those are Life Members. Too many people have not bothered to renew and we have not been attracting new members.

In order for any organization to thrive, it must continue to grow in not only its outreach but also its membership base. If you have any suggestions as to how we can reach more people in our community who will join us in our efforts to preserve Haddonfield's heritage, please call Connie Reeves, Editor, at 429-0326 with your ideas or write to us at Greenfield Hall. The Historical Society of Haddonfield provides an invaluable service to our community and is certainly worthy of our investment of time and our monetary support.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

for new members

The Historical Society of Haddonfield 1996-1997

I (We) want to join the Historical Society of Haddonfield. The type of membership desired is:

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Household	\$35.00 (2 adults and all children living at same residence)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail form to The Historical Society of Haddonfield, Greenfield Hall, 343 King's Highway East, Haddonfield, NJ 08033

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HADDONFIELD

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Haddonfield, New Jersey 08033

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THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HADDONFIELD 1996-1997

*Officers*

President	Patricia Lennon	Term expires 1997	Mickey Mack
Vice-President			Myra Kain
Treasurer	Helene Zimmer-Loew	Term expires 1998	Vivian Stauder
Secretary	Barbara Crane		Tom Applegate
Immediate Past President	Deborah Mervine	Term expires 1999	Dinny Traver
			Debby Troemner
			Tish Colombi
			Joe Haro
			Mary Jane Freedley
			Thomas B. Mervine, Jr.
			Nancy Burrough
	Legal Counsel	John Reisner III	

*Trustees*